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29 March 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

State Dept. review completed

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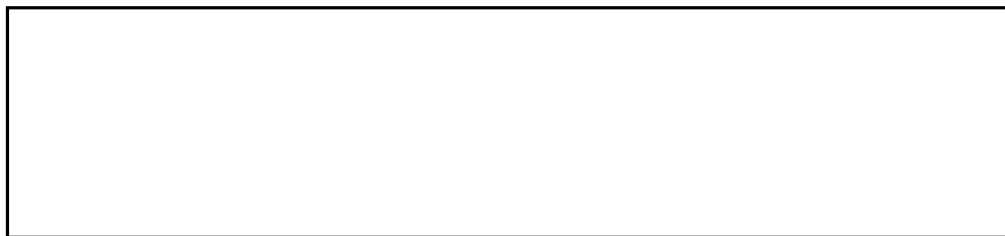
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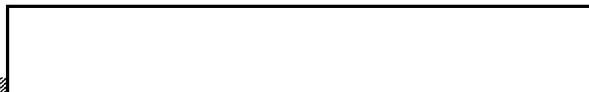
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Belgium-Congo: Belgium has agreed to expand its military assistance program in the Congo.

Foreign Minister Spaak told Governor Harriman on 27 March that the Belgian Government would provide a \$2-million credit to the Congo for the procurement of arms and ammunition during the remainder of this year. He also said that Brussels would expedite the delivery of ammunition by both air and sea.

Spaak further stated that Belgian officers ^{will} help staff two newly created Congolese battalions ^{and} (that these officers ^{will} remain on duty after the troops complete their training next September. In addition, Belgian air force personnel, who are vital to air reconnaissance and supply operations, are to remain in the Congo for another six months.

In the political sphere, Spaak indicated that Brussels would provide personnel and money for five or six administrative teams to help govern areas liberated from Congolese rebels.

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Honduras: Prospects for a peaceful restoration of representative government continue to fade.

The Constituent Assembly, elected last month, is now little more than a tool in the hands of Ricardo Zuniga, the potent political manipulator behind President Lopez. Zuniga, who already controls most of the assemblymen representing the dominant National Party, is [] planning to fill the seats vacated last week by the opposition with hand-picked "independents."

Meanwhile, the large opposition Liberal Party has refused to reconsider its decision to boycott the assembly. It is also continuing to drift leftward as extremist party leaders, who are not averse to cooperation with the Communists, are gaining influence. In addition, Jorge Bueso, a moderate member of the party leadership, is [] planning to resign.

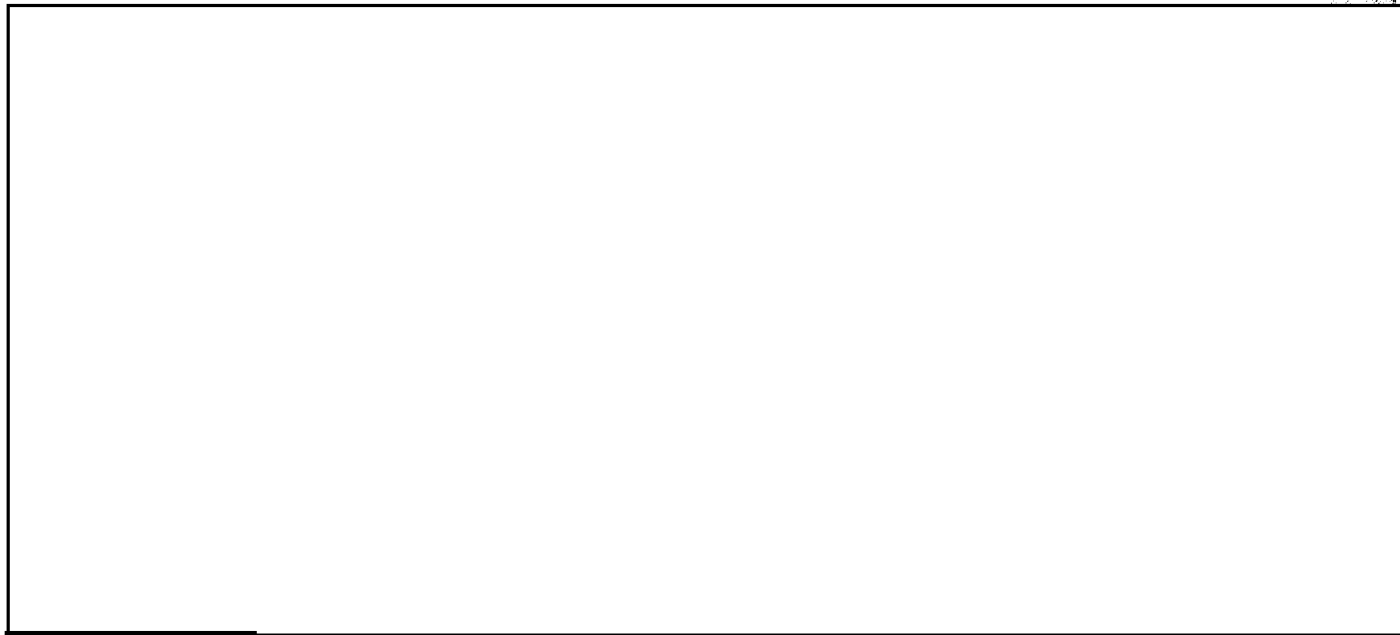
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NOTES

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[redacted] Congo (Brazzaville): (Ex-president Youlou's escape to Leopoldville, which was arranged by domestic opposition elements with help from Tshombé, may trigger a new bid by extremists within the Brazzaville regime to enhance their power. In addition to probably inspiring new verbal blasts against the US the extremists may try to stage another bloody purge of "counterrevolutionaries" such as occurred last month. The ultimate targets of any such moves would presumably be the more moderate Brazzaville officials, including the president and foreign minister, who have evidently tried to shield Youlou from the extremists and who now are probably relieved that he is out of the country.)

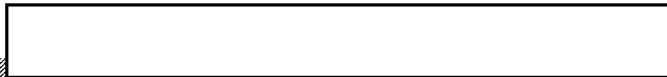
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